



# STATE OF IOWA

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## Memorandum

**Date:** October 19, 2004  
**To:** FaDSS Coordinators  
**From:** FaDSS Program Managers  
**Re:** FaDSS Eligibility

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This is a memo providing written clarification regarding who is eligible for the FaDSS program. This issue has been discussed at the July and September FaDSS Coordinator meetings as well as the September FaDSS Council meeting.

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2005

### **Who Does this Impact?**

Families where no adult family members are receiving cash benefits from the Family Investment Program (FIP) and are not mandatory participants in the PROMISE JOBS program. This includes families where the parent(s) are receiving SSI/SSDI benefits and only the children are receiving FIP. This includes "caretaking" cases, where an adult, such as a grandparent, is taking care of children who are receiving FIP.

### **What happens on January 1, 2005?**

Families (as described above) would no longer be recruited and enrolled in the FaDSS program. Families already enrolled prior to January 1, 2005 would begin a 90-day transition.

### **What happens when a FaDSS adult participant who was receiving FIP begins to receive SSI instead of FIP?**

The FaDSS Specialist would need to begin the 90-day transition period with the family the same as they currently do for families that cease receiving FIP because of increased wages. For instance, a family begins receiving SSI on September 25 but still receives a FIP check in October and ceases to receive FIP beginning November 1, the 90-transition would begin November 1 and the family would need to be exited no later than January 31.

### **Why was this policy clarification needed?**

The FaDSS program was intended to serve families where the adults are receiving FIP. In the past when a family applied for and began receiving SSI, the general direction provided was to find a new supportive service to replace the FaDSS program and transition the family out of FaDSS. This direction did not provide timelines of when the transition must occur. Enrolling families that the adults were not receiving FIP appeared to occur gradually with the advent of the FaDSS program's ability to receive referrals from third parties (non-DHS or PROMISE JOBS.)

The FaDSS program only has funding to serve 10% of the total FIP population. Families that have secured SSI/SSDI benefits are no longer pursuing economic self-sufficiency through PROMISE JOBS services. Families that are receiving FIP for the children only can continue to receive FIP until the youngest child turns 18 years of age. FaDSS funding is from the state of Iowa's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant as well as required state maintenance of effort match.

While we understand that families in these circumstances could benefit from FaDSS services, we also know that to be true of families that are leaving FIP due to increased income. Families that leave FIP due to increased income are given a 90-day transition period and then exited from the FaDSS program. Because of our limitations of the number of people that can be served in the FaDSS program and because of the inequity issue we have clarified FaDSS eligibility.

Please contact your assigned FaDSS Program Manager with any questions.